## Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal



## Climate change and human health: The role of nurses in confronting the issue

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#### Abstract:

Climate change will impact human health in various ways as the ecology of our planet changes. Environmental changes such as increased heat waves, sea-level rise, and increased drought around the globe will aggravate already-existing health problems, increase the onset of new health problems, and, in some cases, cause premature death. Catastrophic events associated with these environmental changes, such as floods, and increases in hospital and routine clinic visits will have nurses on the front lines tending to those in need. Climate change needs to be reframed as a public health issue, and the importance of nurses to be educated and engaged cannot be overstated. Nurses can be instrumental in communications with patients and families, working with their hospitals and health systems to reduce emissions and influencing the adoption of strategies to better prepare our health care facilities and our communities for the health impacts of climate change.

Source: http://dx.doi.org/10.1097/NAQ.0b013e3181f60df9

## **Resource Description**

#### Communication: M

resource focus on research or methods on how to communicate or frame issues on climate change; surveys of attitudes, knowledge, beliefs about climate change

A focus of content

#### Communication Audience: M

audience to whom the resource is directed

Health Professional, Public

#### Exposure: M

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Air Pollution, Extreme Weather Event, Food/Water Quality, Food/Water Security, Food/Water Security, Precipitation, Sea Level Rise, Temperature

Air Pollution: Ozone

Extreme Weather Event: Drought, Flooding, Wildfires

Food/Water Quality: Other Water Quality Issue

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Water Quality (other): Salinity

Food/Water Security: Agricultural Productivity, Food Access/Distribution, Nutritional Quality

**Temperature:** Extreme Heat, Fluctuations

Geographic Feature: M

resource focuses on specific type of geography

None or Unspecified

Geographic Location: M

resource focuses on specific location

**United States** 

Health Impact: **№** 

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Cardiovascular Effect, Diabetes/Obesity, Infectious Disease, Injury, Mental Health/Stress, Morbidity/Mortality, Respiratory Effect, Other Health Impact

Cardiovascular Effect: Other Cardiovascular Effect

Cardiovascular Disease (other): Heart arrhythmias

Infectious Disease: Foodborne/Waterborne Disease, General Infectious Disease, Vectorborne

Disease

Foodborne/Waterborne Disease: General Foodborne/Waterborne Disease

Vectorborne Disease: Mosquito-borne Disease

Mosquito-borne Disease: General Mosquito-borne Disease, Malaria

Mental Health Effect/Stress: Other Mental Disorder

Respiratory Effect: Asthma

Other Health Impact: Emergency department visits; Heat cramps; Heat exhaustion; Heat stroke

Medical Community Engagement: M

resource focus on how the medical community discusses or acts to address health impacts of climate change

A focus of content

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Adaptation, Mitigation

Resource Type: **M** 

format or standard characteristic of resource

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Review

Resilience: M

capacity of an individual, community, or institution to dynamically and effectively respond or adapt to shifting climate impact circumstances while continuing to function

A focus of content

Timescale: M

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified